

Message Text

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ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CA-01 VO-05 H-01 L-03 EB-08
AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /085 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2385
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR
SUBJECT: FILIPINO REFUGEES IN EAST MALAYSIA

REF: STATE 179822

1. UNHCR'S PROGRAM FOR FILIPINO REFUGEES IN MALAYSIA IS DESCRIBED IN ITS ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR 1976-1977 AND BUDGET FOR 1978, UNGA DOCUMENT A/AC.96/539, AUGUST 26, 1977, PAGES 116, 117 AND 118. THIS INDICATES A PROGRAM FOR 1976 OF DOLLARS 159,872, A REVISED ALLOCATION AND ESTIMATES OF BOTH GENERAL AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR 1977 OF DOLLARS 930,618 AND PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS AND PROJECTIONS FOR 1978 OF BOTH PROGRAMS OF DOLLARS 1,408,000. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT THE 1977 PROGRAM INCLUDED A DOLLARS 400,000 CONTRIBUTION FROM THE UNHCR EMERGENCY FUND MADE IN MAY 1977. STAFF FOR THE PROGRAM CONSISTS OF ONE PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER AND TWO GENERAL SERVICES PERSONNEL. THE UNHCR RESPONSIBLE OFFICER HAD NO RECOLLECTION OF ANY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THIS PROJECT, ALTHOUGH HE STATED THAT HE WOULD VERIFY THIS POINT AND ADVISE THE MISSION IF HE LEARNED OTHERWISE.

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2. THE RESPONSIBLE UNHCR OFFICER (HORDIJK) STATED THAT UNHCR PLANNED TO SEND A MISSION OF EXPERTS TO SABAH TO EXAMINE THE CURRENT PROGRAM AND INVESTIGATE PROSPECTS FOR PUTTING IT ON A PERMANENT BASIS. HE SAID THAT THEIR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IN SABAH, VAN ROOYEN, IS CURRENTLY IN JAKARTA, BUT IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO SABAH IN THE

NEAR FUTURE.

3. HORDIJK EMPHASIZED THAT NOT ALL OF THE 90,000 FILIPINO (MOSTLY MOSLEM FROM THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS) REFUGEES WERE IN NEED OF HELP, AND JUDGED THAT THE NUMBER OF THOSE ACTUALLY BEING ASSISTED WOULD BE ON THE ORDER OF 40,000 TO 50,000. HE SAID THAT MANY OF THE REFUGEES HAD BEEN IN SABAH FOR A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO "SERIOUS INCREASE" IN THEIR NUMBERS DURING THE PERIOD OF HIS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROGRAM, THAT IS, OVER THE LAST NINE MONTHS. REPORTS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE NUMBERS HAD INCREASED AS OF A FEW MONTHS AGO WERE INVESTIGATED AND FOUND TO BE INCORRECT.

4. FOR DETAILS CONCERNING NATURE OF PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT IS REFERRED TO U.N. DOCUMENT CITED PARA 1, WHICH IS HELD BY HA.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: REFUGEES
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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